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# **Updates to the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook and the Latest in Vapor Intrusion News**

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# Objective



- Identify updates to DoD VI Handbook
- Describe VI technologies included in the updates
- Present what's new in VI
  - Challenges and solutions

## DoD VAPOR INTRUSION HANDBOOK



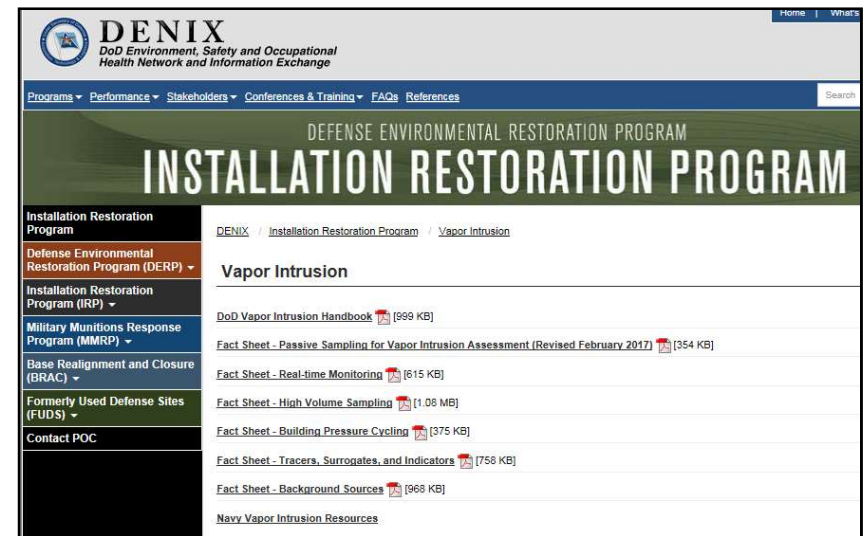
JANUARY 2009

PREPARED BY  
THE TRI-SERVICE ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT WORKGROUP

# Fact Sheets Update DoD VI Handbook



- Developed by TSERAWG
- Fact sheets posted on DoD DENIX website
  - <http://www.denix.osd.mil/irp/vaporintrusion/>
- Passive Sampling for Vapor Intrusion Assessment (001)
- Real-Time Monitoring for Vapor Intrusion Assessment (002)
- High Volume Soil Gas Sampling for Vapor Intrusion Assessment (003)
- Use of Building Pressure Cycling in Vapor Intrusion Assessment (004)

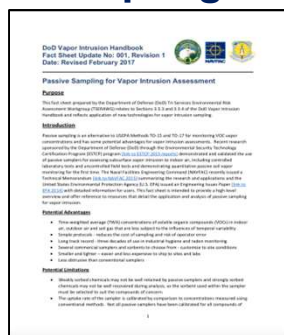


# Fact Sheets Update DoD VI Handbook



- Use of Tracers, Surrogates, and Indicator Parameters in Vapor Intrusion Assessment (005)
- Determining the Influence of Background Sources on Indoor Air Concentrations in Vapor Intrusion Assessment (006)
- Screening and Prioritizing for Vapor Intrusion Assessments (in progress)
- Incorporating VI into the CERCLA Process (in progress)

## Passive Sampling



## Real-Time Monitors



## High-Volume



## Pressure Cycling



## Tracers, Indicators, Surrogates



## Background Sources



# VI Challenges and Solutions



## Background Sources



- Comparison to typical indoor / outdoor air data
- Compound ratio analysis (indoor / subslab)
- Pressure cycling
- Real-time monitoring
- Detailed building surveys & remove if feasible
- Stable isotope "fingerprint" analysis

## Temporal Variability



- Long-term passive sampling
- Ultra-low-flow long duration canister sampling
- Pressure cycling

## Spatial Variability and Large Buildings



- High volume sampling
- Real-time monitoring
- Indicators/tracers/surrogates

## Preferential Pathways



- Pressure cycling & real-time monitoring & indicators/tracers/surrogates

# Passive Sampling



- ESTCP research validated passive sampling for vapor intrusion assessment
- Advantages
  - Time-weighted (> a week) average concentrations dampen variability
  - Simple protocols with industrial hygiene / radon monitoring track record
  - Customize samplers and sorbents to site conditions
  - Smaller, lighter, less expensive
  - Easy to deploy
- Limitations
  - Sorbent/chemical compatibility
  - Need to know / manage uptake rate; uptake rate of sampler should be calibrated for chemicals of concern (COCs)
  - Not suited for full suite analysis (multiple sorbents/sampler types)
- Time weighted concentration (C) is calculated from the mass (M) of each VOC (determined by laboratory analysis of the sorbent) divided by the product of the sample duration (t) and the uptake rate (UR):

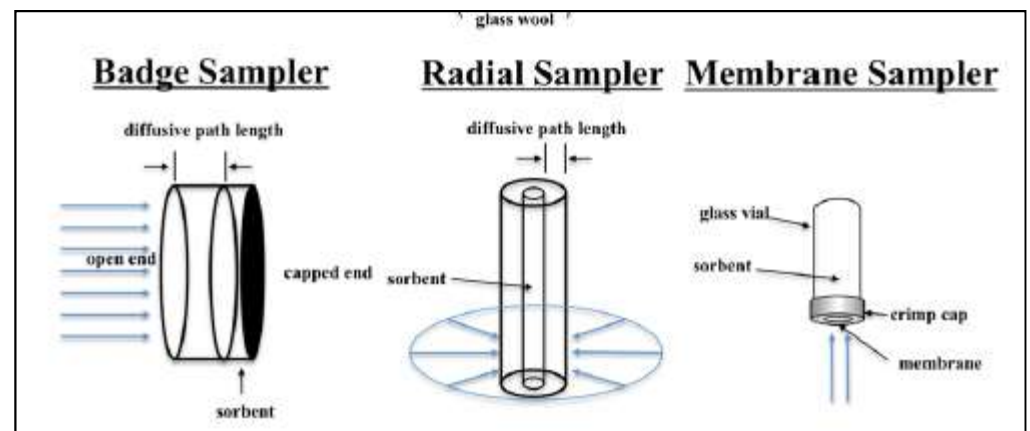
$$C = \frac{M}{UR \cdot t}$$

# Passive Sampling



- Design Considerations
  - Sampler configuration & calibrated uptake rates for COCs
  - Sorbent selection for COCs
  - Sample duration consistent with DQOs & reporting limits
- Applications
  - Indoor/outdoor
    - Better estimate of chronic exposure (1-2 week duration samples)
    - Short-term / acute exposures need sampler with high uptake rate
  - Soil Vapor
    - Uptake rate less than diffusion through soil (starvation effect)

3M OVM 3500





# Real-Time Monitoring



- Sample results in seconds to minutes with portable instrumentation
  - GC/MS, GC/ECD, GC/PID
  - PID, FID, landfill gas meter, tracer gas meter
- Advantages
  - Supports real time decisions
  - Understand cause-and-effect relationships for better CSM
  - Rapid data interpretations can save time and money
  - Line of evidence to validate data integrity
- Limitations
  - Cost and sensitivity of real-time monitoring instruments
  - Moment in time sample result
  - Finite location sample result

DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook  
Fact Sheet Update No: 002  
Date: February 2017



## Real-Time Monitoring for Vapor Intrusion Assessment

### Purpose

This fact sheet prepared by the Department of Defense (DoD) Tri-Services Environmental Risk Assessment Workgroup (TSERAWG) relates to Sections 2, 3, and Appendix D of the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook, and reflects application of new technologies for vapor intrusion sampling.





# Real-Time Monitoring



- Applications
  - Identifying indoor sources
  - Identifying vapor entry points
  - Screen indoor air spaces
  - Indicator of biodegradation
    - Landfill gas meter ( $O_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $CH_4$ )
  - Understand vapor migration and air flow when used with:
    - Building pressure cycling
    - HVAC adjustments
    - Differential pressure monitoring
    - Tracers (radon,  $SF_6$ )



# High Volume Soil Gas Sampling



- Remove large volume soil gas and monitor response
  - Vacuum extract 10-100 liters 30 to 90 minutes
  - Assess soil gas concentration, distribution
- Design
  - Fan / blower connected to subslab extraction port
  - Monitoring ports distant from extraction point (~ groundwater pump test)
  - Pitot tube or thermal anemometer for flow velocity
  - Real-time monitoring of O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>, and VOCs



# High Volume Soil Gas Sampling



- Advantages

- Fewer locations to assess large areas saving time and money
- Less chance of missing subslab hotspot area
- Assess soil gas in areas not accessible for subslab port
- Aid in identifying atypical preferential pathway
- Data for optimal subslab venting system design

DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook  
Fact Sheet Update No: 003  
Date: February 2017



## High Volume Soil Gas Sampling for Vapor Intrusion Assessment

### Purpose

This fact sheet prepared by the Department of Defense (DoD) Tri-Services Environmental Risk Assessment Workgroup (TSERAWG) relates to Section 3.3.3 and Appendix D of the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook, and reflects application of new technologies for vapor intrusion sampling.

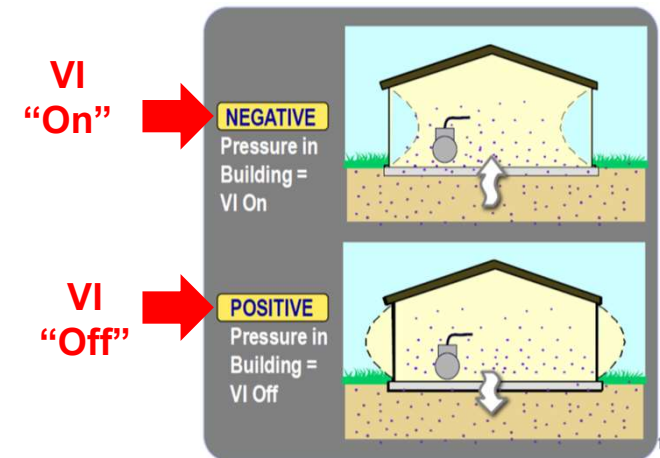
- Limitations

- Clay-rich or wet soils can yield low flow rates
- Manage discharge and/or treatment of extracted volume of soil gas
- Greater equipment requirements than conventional subslab sampling
- Disruption to occupants greater than conventional subslab sampling

# Building Pressure Cycling



- Measure indoor air under manipulated building pressure and ventilation to turn VI on/off
- Advantages
  - Identify near worst-case VI to manage variability
  - Identify indoor source contributions
  - Identify atypical preferential pathway with real-time monitoring
  - Cost effective to minimize sample events and identify background
- Limitations
  - Large spaces can be difficult to depressurize or pressurize



Beckley, 2014 AEHS

DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook  
Fact Sheet Update No: 004  
Date: August 2017



## Use of Building Pressure Cycling in Vapor Intrusion Assessment

### Purpose

This fact sheet relates to Sections 2.7, 2.8, 3.34, 3.5 and Appendix G of the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook. These sections describe methods for indoor air sampling and determining the influence of background sources. Building pressure cycling (BPC) offers an alternative approach to the methods described in the Handbook.

# Building Pressure Cycling



- Design
  - Conduct baseline differential pressure across slab
    - Generally ranges between  $\pm 5$ -10 pascals (some can be higher)
  - Fan, blower door or HVAC adjustment to pressurize or depressurize space
  - Measure differential pressure and VOCs across slab under varying pressures
  - Screen vapor entry points under negative pressures
- Interpretations
  - Detecting VOCs under positive pressure (VI off) suggest indoor source
  - Increasing VOCs under negative pressures (VI on) can estimate near worst case VI



# Tracers, Surrogates and Indicators



- Tracers mimic VOC VI migration
  - SF6, He, radon
  - Release tracers in subsurface or preferential pathways (sewer pipes) and monitor indoor air
- Surrogates substitute for VI VOC
  - Radon indoor air subslab ratio to estimate slab attenuation
  - VOCs (e.g. 1,1DCE, cis12DCE) not commonly found in background
- Indicators of potential VI exposures
  - Building pressure / temperature
  - Subslab PID / FID screen

DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook  
Fact Sheet Update No: 005  
Date: September 2017



## Use of Tracers, Surrogates, and Indicator Parameters in Vapor Intrusion Assessment

### Purpose

This fact sheet, which was prepared by the Department of Defense (DoD) Tri-Services Environmental Risk Assessment Workgroup (TSERAWG), relates to Sections 2.1, 3.5 and 3.3.5 and Appendices G, H and I of the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook and reflects the application of new technologies for vapor intrusion (VI) sampling.



# Background Sources



- Continues to confound VI assessments
- Investigation strategies
  - Limit indoor air sampling for subsurface vapor source VOCs
  - Building survey of indoor sources
    - Remove if feasible/reasonable
  - Outdoor air sampling
  - Subslab/indoor air constituent ratio analysis
  - Pressure cycling
  - Real-time monitoring
  - Stable isotope analysis

DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook  
Fact Sheet Update No: 006  
Date: September 2017

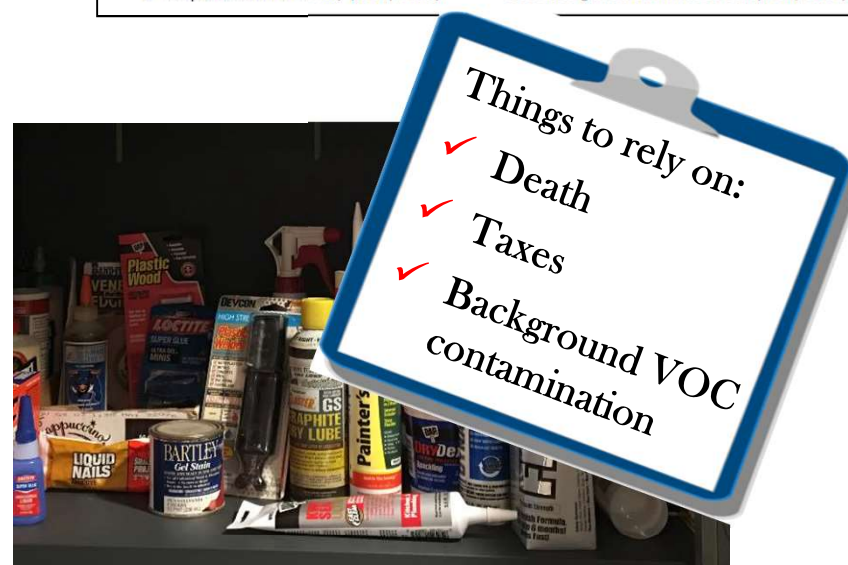


## Determining the Influence of Background Sources on Indoor Air Concentrations in Vapor Intrusion Assessment

### Purpose

This fact sheet was prepared by the Department of Defense (DoD) Tri-Services Environmental Risk Assessment Workgroup (TSERAWG) and relates to Sections 3.3.4 and 3.5-1 and Appendix G of the DoD Vapor Intrusion Handbook (TSERAWG, 2009). These sections discuss methods for determining the influence of background sources. This fact sheet also complements and augments:

- Naval Facilities Engineering Command's (NAVFAC's) Interim Final Guidance for Environmental Background Analysis Volume IV: Vapor Intrusion Pathway (NAVFAC, 2011)
- Department of the Navy (DON) Policy Use of Background Chemical Levels (DON, 2004).





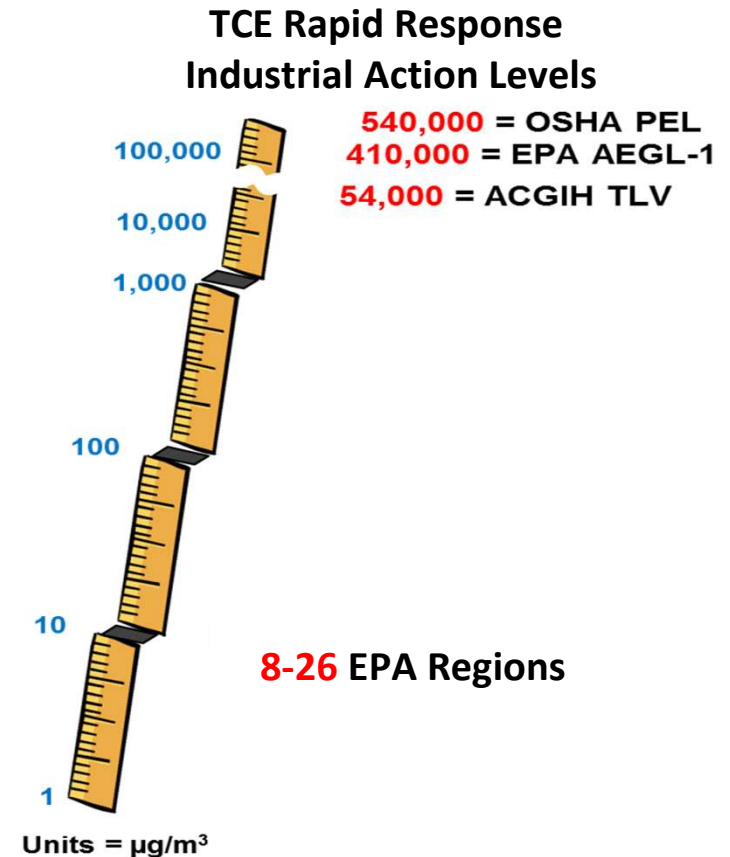
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- Empirical Subslab AFs for ~20 Industrial Buildings**
- The chart displays the relationship between Subslab Soil Gas Concentration (ppbv) and the Subslab-to-Indoor Air Attenuation Factor (AF) for approximately 20 industrial buildings. The y-axis represents the AF on a logarithmic scale from 0.00001 to 0.000001. The x-axis represents the Subslab Soil Gas Concentration in ppbv, ranging from 2500 to 500.
- The chart is divided into two main regions:
- Yellow Region (Left):** Indoor air significantly greater than outdoor air concentrations. This region corresponds to Subslab Soil Gas Concentrations greater than 2500 ppbv.
  - Blue Region (Right):** Indoor and outdoor air levels similar, therefore, "actual" AF less than value shown. This region corresponds to Subslab Soil Gas Concentrations less than 2500 ppbv.
- Two horizontal red lines indicate specific AF values:
- Better industrial attenuation factor:** A red line at AF = 0.00001.
  - EPA default AF (residential):** A red line at AF = 0.000001.
- The chart shows that for higher soil gas concentrations, the AF is generally higher, indicating better attenuation. For lower concentrations, the AF is generally lower, indicating less attenuation.

# What's New in the VI Queue?



- Developing a VI NEDD for NIRIS
  - Capture non-analytical VI data
- EDQW developing at VI QAPP Worksheet Template
- NESDI study of temporal variability
- Weight of evidence paper for managing TCE in non-residential buildings

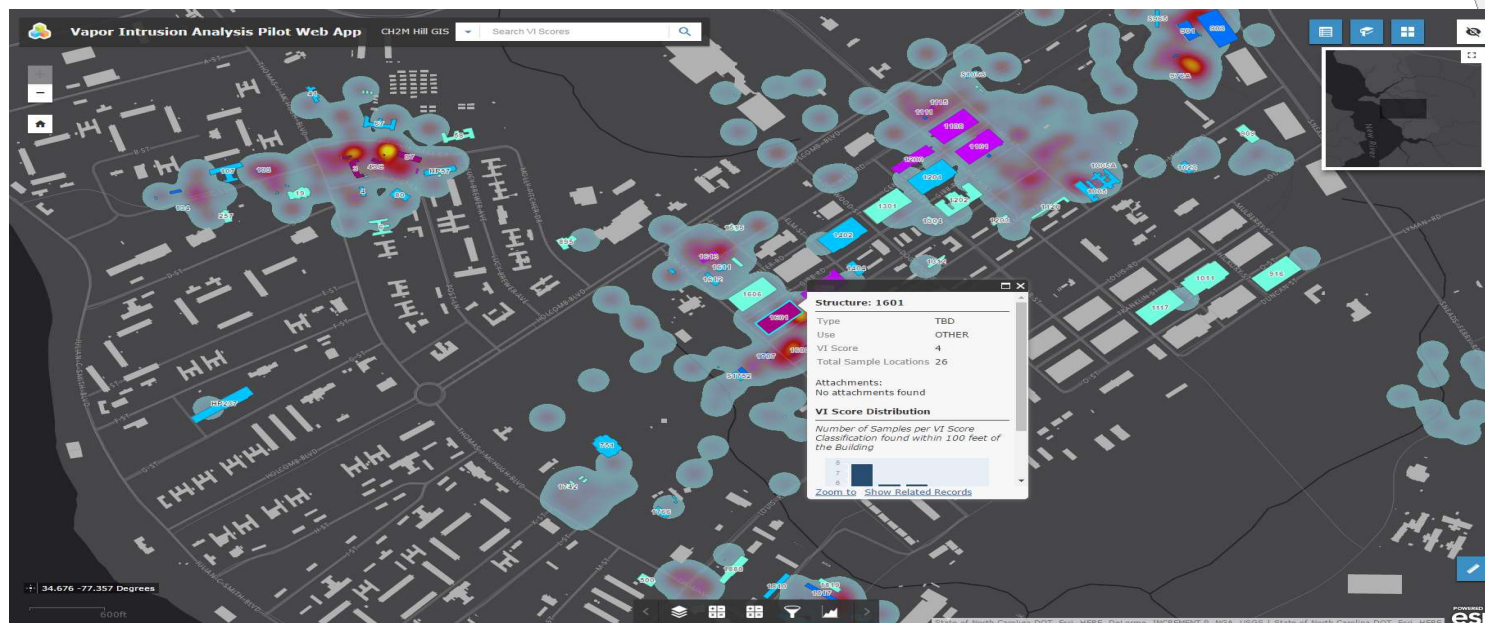
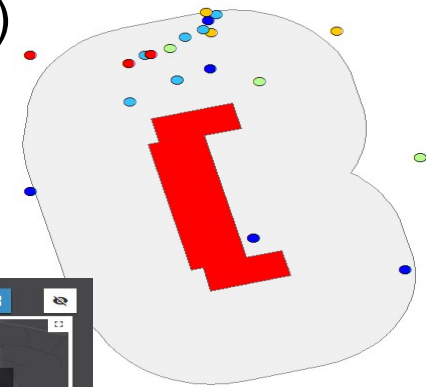
**Low action level + single exposure + rapid response = CHAOS**



# What's New in the VI Queue?



- VI NIRIS/GIS screening
  - Use NIRIS to screen for potential VI buildings of concern from groundwater data (soil gas up next)
  - 7 compounds (usual suspects)
  - Spatial Analysis to score buildings VI potential



# Knowledge Check



**This sampling technique helps manage spatial variability under very large buildings?**

Passive samples

Pressure cycling

High volume sampling

Subslab canister samples

**This sampling technique helps manage temporal variability?**

Passive samples

Indoor canister samples

Real-time monitoring

Isotopic Analysis

# Knowledge Check



**CSM:** Very large 500,000 sqft industrial bldg., low concentration TCE plume at water table, high TCE bottom of 40 ft aquifer. Potential for vadose zone source in NE quadrant of bldg.

**Which of the following would you include in the VI investigation work plan?**

Indoor canister samples

Outdoor canister samples

Subslab canister samples

Real-time monitoring

Remove indoor sources

Pressure cycling

Isotopic Analysis

Passive samples

Radon samples

Constituent ratio analysis

# Summary



- DoD VI Handbook updated via topic-specific fact sheets
  - Passive Sampling
  - Real-Time
  - High Volume Soil Gas Sampling
  - Building Pressure Cycling
  - Tracers, Surrogates, and Indicator Parameters
  - Background Sources
- Ongoing VI efforts
  - VI NEDD
  - VI QAPP Template
  - Leadership guidance for TCE in non-residential buildings
- New tools and resources out there- **USE THEM**

# Contacts and Questions



## Points of Contact

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## Questions ?